

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02900 100444Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 /044 W
-----100735Z 107736 /13

R 091528Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3905
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2900

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ET, PINS
SUBJ: SEARCH CAMPAIGN II UPDATE

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 2872, B. ADDIS ABABA 28773, C. ADDIS ABABA 2754

SUMMARY: MAY 8 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED FULL TEXT OF
PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (PMAC) STATE-
MENT ON RESUMPTION SEARCH CAMPAIGN (REFTEL A), ENTITLED:
"WHERE THE BROOM DOES NOT REACH, THE DUST DOES NOT VANISH
BY ITSELF". SALIENT POINTS OF PMAC STATEMENT REPORTED
REFTEL A, EXCEPT AUTHORIZATION TO STOP AND SEARCH
DIPLOMATIC VEHICLES IN CASE OF "SERIOUS SUSPICION".
WHILE CITY RELATIVELY QUIET MAY 7, MAJOR GUN BATTLES
OCCURRED AFTERNOON AND EVENING MAY 8. END SUMMARY.

1. MAJOR JUSTIFICATION GIVEN IN PMAC STATEMENT FOR
RESUMPTION SEARCH CAMPAIGN WERE: REPEATED PUBLIC DEMANDS TO RID
CAPITAL OF PAID ASSASSINS AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARIES, NECESSITY TO
CLEANSE ADDIS OF FENCE-SITTERS WHO OBSERVE WITH
INDIFFERENCE REACTIONARIES KILLING REVOLUTIONARIES,
COMPLEMENT TO CAMPAIGN TO CRUSH EXTERNAL ENEMIES,
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NEED TO GUARANTEE SAFETY OF LIVES AND PROPERTY OF
BROAD MASSES, AND URGENT NEED TO SAVE REVOLUTION
FROM COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY REVERSAL.

2. WHILE SEARCH TEAMS AND ROAD BLOCK GUARDS GENERALLY
HAVE OBSERVED IMMUNITY OF DIPLOMATIC VEHICLES AND
RESIDENCES, THIS NOT TRUE UNIFORMLY. SEVERAL EMBASSY

VEHICLES STOPPED AND SEARCHED MAY 7. BRITISH
EMBOFF NOT ALLOWED TO CROSS TOWN DURING INITIAL
STAGES OF SEARCH CAMPAING. AMCIT, WHO DETAILED TO
UNDP AS SECURITYOFFICER AND HAS DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY,
HAD RESIDENCE SEARCHED. (SERVANT LIVING ON HIS
COMPOUND WAS DETAINED WHILE IN POSSESSION OF EPRP
LITERATURE. SEARCHERS SUBSEQUENTLY REQUESTED AND
WERE GRANTED PERMISSION TO SEARCH RESIDENCE.) DUTHC EMBASSY
HAS CONFIRMED DUTCH EMPLOYEE OF INTERNATIONAL IVESTOCK CENTER
FOR AFRICA WOUNDED EVENING MAY 8 AND WILL BE MEDEVACED MAY 10.

3. ADDIS RELATIVELY QUIET DURING FIRST TWO DAYS
FOLLOWING MENGISTU DEPARTURE FOR SOVIET UNION. ROBBERY
OF TRANSPORT COMPANY PAYROLL OCCURRED MAY 5,
AND TWO "ANARCHISTS" KILLED BY DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBERS
MAY 6. LEVEL OF GUNFIRE MINIMAL FIRST DAY OF SEARCH
CAMPAIGN MAY 7. HOWEVER, NUMEROUS GUNBATTLES
OCCURRED AFTERNOON AND EVENING MAY 8 THROUGHOUT ADDIS,
WITH LEVEL GUNFIRE HIGHEST SINCE MARCH. PEASANT
MILITIA HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FROM COUNTRYSIDE TO PARTICIP-
PATE IN HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH. EMBOFFS HAVE ALSO OBSERVED
OVER 130 TRUCKLOADS OF MEN (AVERAGE 40 PER TRUCK)
TRANSITING ADDIS OVER WEEKEND APPARENTLY BOUND FOR
MILITIA TRAINING CAMP NORTHEAST OF ADDIS.

4. EMBASSY CONTINUING TO OBSERVE SELF-IMPOSED 10:00 PM
CURFEW AND ADVISING HEIGHTENED SECURITY
CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG STAFF. EMBASSY WILL AGAIN LOWER
SELF-IMPOSED CURFEW TO 7:00 PM IF CONDITIONS WARRANT.
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5. FOR ABIDJAN: PLEASE PASS TO CHARGE TIENKEN.
MALIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: ADDIS ABABA
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